

REMARKS

Claim Allowances

Claims 23, 24, 28, and 29 are allowed.

Claim Objections

Claim 4 is objected to because the power threshold is expressed in terms of current. Claim 4 has been amended to overcome this objection by using a milliwatt designation.

Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 4 has been amended to overcome this rejection.

Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-3, 9-15, 18-22 and 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gilbert (U.S. 2001/0003205) in view of Flannery (5,799,196). The applicant disputes this rejection for the reasons outlined below.

The applicant has amended independent claims 1, 12, 20, and 25 by adding an additional claim element taken from independent claims 23 and 28 that the Examiner has indicated was not found in the prior art. In light of these amendments, claims 1, 12, 20, and 25 are now allowable, as are claims 2-4 and 9-11, 13-15, 18-19, 21-22, and 26-27, which recite additional features that are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art.

Claims 5-8 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gilbert (US 2001/0003205) and Flannery (5,799,196) in view of *Zener Regulators*. The applicant disputes this rejection in light of the changes to the claims outlined below.

Independent claim 5 has been amended by the applicant to incorporate the claim element from dependent claim 6 for a suspend circuit. Additionally, this claim element for a suspend circuit was clarified in view of the Examiner's argument that Gilbert teaches a similar suspend circuit. Claim 5 now includes a suspend circuit to *disconnect the computer peripheral device* from the external power source responsive to a signal from the external power source (as described on page 6 lines 15-18 of the application). Gilbert, on the other hand, teaches one to divert power *away from primary-function module* to battery, thereby charging battery (Paragraph 18 lines 7-9). Gilbert is not teaching a way of disconnecting the power from the peripheral device but instead to continue to use the power on the peripheral

device for a new purpose – that of charging the battery on the peripheral device. Therefore the applicant submits claim 5 as patently distinguishable over the prior art and allowance of claim 5 is requested.

Additionally, claim 16 was amended in a similar fashion to claim 5 by adding a claim element for a suspend circuit. Likewise the applicant submits claim 16 as patently distinguishable over the prior art and allowance of claim 16 is requested. Claims 6-8 and 17 recite additional features that are neither disclosed nor suggested by the prior art, and are therefore allowable.

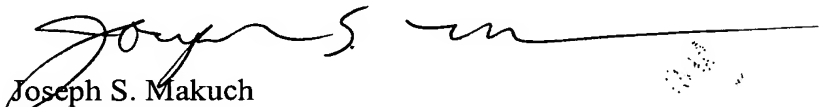
Conclusion

Applicant requests reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

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Respectfully submitted,

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